



**Report of: Councillor Dr Peter Moseley  
Cabinet Member for Environment**

Report to:	<b>Cabinet</b>
Date:	<b>10<sup>th</sup> May 2018</b>
Subject:	<b>South Kesteven Higher Street Standard - Report Number ENV692</b>

<b>Decision Proposal:</b>	Key Decision	
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Dr Peter Moseley Cabinet Member for Environment	
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<b>Approved for publication</b>	Councillor Dr Peter Moseley Date approved: 18.04.2018	

**SUMMARY**

This report presents the South Kesteven Higher Street Cleansing Standard which has been developed using the intelligence gathered and lessons learnt from the highly successful Big Clean initiative which commenced in 2017. This Standard supports our ambition to now maintain a much higher level of cleanliness throughout South Kesteven, making the area more attractive to investors, residents and visitors. Members of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee reviewed the Standard at their meeting of the 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018 and have recommended that it is adopted.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Cabinet approve the adoption of the South Kesteven Higher Street Standard.

### **1. BACKGROUND TO REPORT**

1.1 Members supported the Big Clean initiative to provide, within a 12 week timescale, a higher standard of street cleansing which would appeal to investors, residents and visitors. The overall aim was to improve the attractiveness of our district for both our residents and to encourage economic growth. The starting point for the Big Clean was:-

- Removal of weed growth
- Removal of litter and detritus
- Removal of fly tipping
- Removal of graffiti in the public realm
- Cleansing of road signs and street furniture
- Removal of graffiti/repainting of utility cabinets as required
- Washing of pavements i.e. moss and bird faeces
- Cutting back overhanging vegetation
- Cutting back path overgrowth as a long term objective

1.2 The Big Clean involved a significant investment in terms of resources and machinery. Part of the initial recommendation (Big Clean Report no: ENV660) was for Members and Officers to develop a South Kesteven “street scene standard” which would reflect the improvements made during the initial project and provide a basis for maintaining a higher street standard.

### **2. The “Higher Street Standard”**

2.1 The Big Clean attained a higher standard of cleansing and during the 12 week project a significant amount of intelligence was gathered. This information, along with the lessons learnt have been fundamental in its design and development. The South Kesteven Higher Street Standard introduces a level of cleanliness over and above the National Standard as set out in the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse (see Background Papers para12).

2.2 In drafting the Higher Street Standard (Appendix 1), the District has been zoned to be coterminous with the areas designated in the Draft South Kesteven Local Plan. This ensures that the land usage is reflected in our Standard. The intended visits and timescales necessary to maintain the required standards are defined for each zone. This enables a programme of works to be designed and implemented.

2.3 Our standard street cleansing programme will continue. However, to achieve the Higher Street Standard, two additional teams with specialist equipment will be formed. The cost of funding these additional teams was approved in the 2018/19 Budget.

2.4 The intention is to provide the finished document to the public via our web site and, if requested, hard copy format

### **3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

3.1 No other options have been given detailed consideration.

### **4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 Resources for delivering the new standard are included within the 2018/19 budget proposals.

### **5. RISK AND MITIGATION**

5.1 No significant risks have been identified.

### **6. ISSUES ARISING FROM IMPACT ANALYSIS (EQUALITY, SAFEGUARDING etc.)**

6.1 Not applicable to this report.

### **7. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There is a clear connection between standards of cleanliness and environmental crime. The Higher Street Standard should have a positive impact by assisting in delivering an improved street environment.

### **8. COMMENTS OF FINANCIAL SERVICES**

8.1 The additional resources required to deliver the Higher Street Standard were approved in the 2018/19 Budget.

### **9. COMMENTS OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

9.1 Section 89(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 places a duty on certain authorities, including District Councils, to ensure that their land (or land for which they are responsible) is, so far as is practicable, kept clear of litter and refuse. The Council should, have regard to the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse that acts as a practical guide to the discharge of these duties.

### **10. COMMENTS OF OTHER RELEVANT SERVICES**

10.1 None

### **11. APPENDICES**

11.1 Appendix 1 The Big Clean Higher Street Standard

### **12. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

12.1 [Big Clean \(Report to Cabinet no: ENV660\)](#)

12.2 [Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse.](#)